

Civil Discovery Dispute Conferences

No written discovery motion may be noticed or set for hearing before Magistrate Judge Michael J. Seng without his prior approval.

A party with a discovery dispute shall confer with the opposing party in a good faith effort to resolve such dispute without court action. If such good faith effort fails, the moving party shall, prior to filing a notice of motion, contact the Magistrate Judge's Career Clerk and request a prompt telephone conference with the Magistrate Judge. That request shall be deemed to include a professional representation by the requesting lawyer that a good faith effort to resolve the dispute took place but failed. The requesting party shall advise the Career Clerk of dates and times in the next ten day period when any concerned party can not be available to confer regarding the dispute.

The Career Clerk will inform requesting counsel of the time and date of the telephone conference. The requesting party shall initiate the telephone conference at the time set and ensure all other concerned parties are able to join in the conference. No recording of the conference shall take place except with prior permission of the Court. No papers shall be filed or lodged in connection with the conference unless the Career Clerk determines that same are necessary to enable the Magistrate Judge to resolve the dispute.

If the Magistrate Judge decides that motion papers and supporting memoranda are needed to satisfactorily resolve the dispute, he shall approve the filing of a written motion filed in conformity with Local Rule 251(a). (The provisions of local Rule 251 (b) through (f) will not apply unless the Magistrate Judge so orders.) Such motion shall, without limitation, (1) quote in full each interrogatory, deposition question, request for admission or request for production in dispute and (2) the response or objection and grounds therefor as stated by the opposing party.

Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, deposition transcripts or discovery papers shall not be lodged or filed with the Court.

Rev'd 9/7/10